



The **Tucson-Pima County Bicycle Advisory Committee** conducted a public meeting on **February 11, 2015** at the Himmel Park Library, 1035 N Treat Ave, Tucson AZ.

MEETING MINUTES, Approved March 11, 2015

prepared by Collin Forbes

1. Call to Order; approval of January 2014 meeting minutes.

David Bachman Williams called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Motion: by Brian Beck to approve the minutes with the typos corrected. Seconded by Ray Copenhaver. **Voice vote: Unanimous.**

2. Call to Public

No members of the public wished to speak.

3. Law Enforcement Staff Reports from TPD and PCSD

Sgt David Fernandez said there were no fatalities for bicycle riders in 2015. For other crashes, due to computer problems, he has numbers but not specifics.

- 5 crashes with bicycles with injuries. Various locations.
- 3 hit and run crashes. Various locations.

TPD will be starting deployments from their Bicycle/Pedestrian Safety grant on Saturday. They will be doing 5 to 6 a month each month until September.

Matt Zoll mentioned he brought packets of TPD crash reports for the BAC to review. His informal study of the reports is that wrong way riding contributes to the most crashes and he thinks that should be a priority during the grant deployments.

Kylie Walzak pointed out a Gem Show shuttle stop in front of the Riverpark Inn which was blocking the bike lane on Cushing. It would be great to have them put the shuttle stop elsewhere next time. Also, she said she using University / 3rd more often and noticing that motorists are ignoring the "Do Not Enter" signs at the intersections of University/Stone and University/Campbell.

Deputy Ryan Roher described three crashes in Pima County.

The first was at Oracle/Ina. A cyclist was hit and both the driver and the cyclist stopped to talk. The rider said "I'm okay" and they traded information. The cyclist didn't want help and the driver drives away. However, a witness saw the person driving away and reported it to 911 as a hit and run. Later, the cyclist is transported to the hospital but is very evasive with the deputy. Later, the rider called the sheriff's office to report a collision, but really was hoping to get a ride home. It turns out the rider has a mental health issue and a history of reporting collisions.

The second was a recreational rider struck on Ina Road. He was hit from behind by a somewhat distracted driver. The driver said he was looking at the dashboard. The rider had reported a back injury and was transported to the hospital.

Third, Palo Verde/Irvington. The rider was going northbound in the afternoon rush hour. There was heavy traffic. A driver trying to catch up to an apparently open spot in traffic sideswiped the rider.

Also, Deputy Roher needs role-players for the academy next Tuesday. He's going to be teaching traffic stops to 44 recruits. If you bring your bike, they can learn how to handle a traffic stop for a cyclist. You will be "stopped" repeatedly by different deputies. It's around the back of the jail on Silverlake.

4. Tangerine Road Plans

Adam Wade spoke about the plans to widen Tangerine Road, north of Tucson. It begins in Oro Valley, goes through unincorporated areas of Pima County and ends in Marana. Having three jurisdictions involved makes things more complicated.

There's going to be a multi use lane on the shoulder and a multi-use path as well. But there are problems because the different jurisdiction want to use different skip striping patterns for the multi-use lane. Hopefully that'll be fixed.

Marana and Oro Valley are wanting to use "multi-use lanes" more often. It's signed as a bike route but does not have other bike lane markings. They want motorists to be able to use it as an emergency lane for breakdowns. But if the lane were marked as a bike lane, motorists would be able to use it for emergency purposes anyway. There will be lots of room with the lane and the shoulder, so it could still be a proper bike lane.

Will bikes be shut out of Tangerine during construction? Adam hopes they'll leave as much of the road open as they can. While working on the outside lanes, they can still have the inside lanes available.

El Tour goes up Oracle and takes Moore Road around Tangerine. There's no bike lane on Moore, but there's much less traffic so it's a nicer road. There are more houses being built north of Tangerine, and increasing traffic of motorists who will want to use Tangerine. With the extra traffic they want to make Moore road more attractive. For one, they could reduce the speed limit.

The construction is going to happen in two sections. The first phase is La Canada to Twin Peaks, starting in 2018. When it's done, it'll be a nice connection for both motorists and cyclists.

5. Ex-Officio members

The clerks complained about our ex-officio members. They looked at our enabling ordinance, and discovered we are only allowed 4, and two of them are the staff from city of Tucson and Pima County. We've been adding staff members as ex-officio members as we went along.

The short term solution is to de-list all of them except for Ann Chanecka, Matt Zoll and Roy Schoonover as an honorary member. He's been in bad health and has done a lot for cyclists in Tucson.

But in the long term, we have a problem. It's not fair for two jurisdictions to have ex-officio members without the other jurisdictions having the same opportunities. We've always encouraged public discussion, but if public participants become a problem, then we'd need to limit discussion at the meetings to members only. Then that would leave the other jurisdictions out in the cold. We need to tweak the ordinance to allow for more ex-officio members from the other jurisdictions.

Robin Steinberg said her reading of the bylaws allows 2 staff ex-officio members plus 4 general ex-officio members. However, the clerk is going by the ordinance rather than the bylaws. David Bachman-Williams said we need a motion to encourage the jurisdictions to tweak the ordinance. Both the city and the county need to do this.

Is this a problem which doesn't need a solution? We haven't had a problem with too much public discussion from disruptive people. Ann Chanecka said it's up to the chair to recognize people who want to speak and they could try to keep the problem person in-line. David said it can be tough to manage that situation. Robin thinks having a person on the agenda is an invitation for them to speak at other times during the meeting.

Motion: by Eric Post to request the city and county to amend the enabling legislation so that we can have ex-officio staff members from all jurisdictions and possibly additional honorary ex-officio members. Seconded by Tom Hausam. **Passed with unanimous voice vote.**

Ian Johnson added that we should look at our other documentation (bylaws and such) to make sure those are up to date as well.

6. Camino de la Canoa Safety Concern

Tom Hausam spoke about Green Valley's "Deadman's Curve."

The first park they've developed near Green Valley has created a safety problem. The park is three baseball fields, pickleball courts, a dog park and a little league baseball field. However, the only way to get here is on Camino de la Canoa which has a curve. People in the neighborhood call it "Deadman's Curve."

There are 94 houses in the area and 200 members of Born Again Jock Association (BAJA) who drive down there. The ball players are there 3 days a week. The estimates are 350-400 trips from residents each day. There will be more and more biking in the area because there are developers building homes along the road.

SCVBAC has isolated an area where bike lanes are needed. Around the curve, there are very poor sight lines. Going south, there's a nice hill and people can pick up a lot of speed as they approach. Most drivers are barely in control of their vehicles.

There's a lot of crumbling curb on the shoulder, so there's no room for a bicycle to bail out on the shoulder. Tom showed a slide of a UPS driver trying to pass a cyclist by crossing the double yellow line and finding a white SUV coming the other way. It's a very dangerous looking situation.

Their proposal is to add a bike lane for the ½ mile stretch and remove some trees on the curve to improve the sight lines.

Safety Improvements Requested by local residents, BAJA, and SCVBAC:

To Do Now:

- Increase Sight Lines
- Repair Road Surface
- Add Paved Shoulders

For The Future:

- Resurface Road
- Add Bike Lanes elsewhere.

There's a letter in the packet to this effect.

Matt Zoll said Pima County would like to do a fuller project. Just ending the bike lane at White House Canyon Road would cause problems elsewhere when the bike lane ends. Their goal is to do the first part from White House Canyon Road through the curve to the next residential street. Perhaps they could go all the way to the park, which is 2-3 miles further. He cautions against just supporting a ½ mile bike lane.

Ian Johnson asked if there was anything else that can be done there other than adding a few feet of asphalt? Matt said the park was built recently, so traffic is increasing. They could use some psycho-perceptive markings which encourage drivers to slow down because they think they are going faster than they are.

Andrew Bailey said having a median in the corner could help slow things down and keep things kind of tight for the driver. In addition to the striping, they could use transverse rumble strips, leaving space for cyclists to avoid them. The rumble strips would hit 2 wheels rather than all 4. With the rumble strips, the potential disadvantage is noise for the neighbors.

Bill Adamson said they presented their request to Pima County which is looking into it. Camino De La Canoa is a 45 mph road going in, and people aren't slowing down. He's very concerned about raising a new project of the bike lanes and having it be so expensive that it wouldn't be done. Their ½ mile request is a compromise based on cost, but they didn't realize that going ⅓ of a mile further would let them hook into White House Canyon Road with better facilities. They should connect to Whitehouse Canyon Road and perhaps recommend going further to the park.

The letter in the packet recommends a multi-use path parallel to Camino De La Canoa. This would attract a lot of casual cyclists who would be also using the park. Bill said he thought of multi-use path as well, but would still like to have bike lanes along that route as well.

Motion: by David Bachman Williams to send the letter to Pima County with tweaks to define the beginning and end of the bike lane from Whitehouse Canyon road to the first side street after the curve. Seconded by Eric Post.

In discussion, Eric Post added as that this is a place where the rider should take the lane until additional facilities are built. Matt said it's a tough situation. On Gates Pass, a cyclist should be checking behind and listening to take the lane and slow people down where needed. But this road is different than Gate's Pass. The traffic is going 40 or 45 around a blind curve. Unfortunately, his best recommendation is not to be there. Use a different road or do it in a different time of day with less traffic.

Motion: by Adam Wade to table this letter and have the facilities subcommittee take this up instead. Seconded by David Bachman Williams. **Voice vote: 15 in favor, 1 opposed. Passed.**

7. Platinum Task Force Report

The Platinum Task Force held their first meeting last month on the 26th of January. They will be meeting on the 4th Monday of every month at 2 p.m. in the PBAA (Perimeter Bicycle Association of America) Conference Room.

Eric Post said they had a good, robust discussion whether we should apply “City by City” or as the Eastern Pima County Region. They ultimately decided to renew the regional application. In 2017 the City of Tucson might apply on their own, Oro Valley may do so as well. But those won’t affect the regional application at all.

The task force needs more members, and they are hoping to get someone from South Tucson.

They’ve been looking at the old application and the critique from LAB. However, the new application is online and they need to be able to access it. It’s password protected at LAB. You can’t just go get it without logging in first.

They are following the five E’s of LAB because the application is broken into those categories. Volunteers were chosen to head up each section:

- Encouragement — Richard DeBernadis
- Enforcement — Eric Post
- Education — Matt Zoll
- Evaluation — Nancy Ellis
- Engineering — David Bachman-Williams

They concluded the meeting by electing a chair. It’s Wayne Cullop. There was no opposition. Eric said it’s as if they’ve switched tasks with him becoming president of GABA and Wayne heading Platinum. But Wayne says he knows Platinum has a definite ending.

Thanks to Eric for being the convener and to Wayne for taking on the task for the rest of the year!

8. Retreat Theme and Timing

We ran out of weekends in February for a retreat.

In March, the theme for the LAB Bike Summit is “Low Stress Bike Facilities”. They have a good speaker to talk about discovering where you need facilities. This is not just the

national trend, but an international trend as well. For our retreat, it'll work be an appropriate theme and we may attract some additional members of the public.

Thus, we want to change the theme of the retreat to "Low Stress Bike Facilities." Ann Chanecka may be able to find some money for a speaker. Could we ask for money from Pima County as well?

Ian Johnson would be interested to see how we can get the remote jurisdictions excited about low stress bikeways. We're not just downtown Tucson and need to think of the region.

Eric Post said he will be at the bike summit and will take a video camera, ample notes and try to learn everything he can at the summit.

Wayne Cullop thinks we should make a recommendation to the county so the map also shows all the low stress facilities in a distinctive color. Eric said low stress markings don't necessarily mean "safe."

Robin brought us back onto topic by reminding us this is about the retreat rather than the low stress routes. We need to set a date and look for a location. It'll be great to have a real hands-on work meeting.

Motion: by Robin Steinberg to have the retreat at a selected date in June. The theme should be "low stress bikeways." Seconded by Kylie Walzak. **Passed with unanimous voice vote.**

9. Letter to PAG concerning diversion program

In lieu of writing a letter, Collin Forbes reported what he learned after his meeting with Gabe Thum about the PAG diversion program.

The Pima County Diversion program will be ending on June 30. PAG has the curriculum from Portland's Legacy Health "Share The Road Safety Class" as well as the existing Pima County Diversion Program. They'll be going through and taking the best parts from each to make their program. But they are planning to use a lot of the Pima County material.

The target is to have the PAG program up and running for July 1. By May they'll have something to present to the BAC. Ideally we'll have a nice seamless shift from the county program to the PAG program.

Motion: by Ian Johnson, that the enforcement subcommittee should write a letter in general support of a combined bicycle and diversion program and we look forward to see what PAG has to say on the subject. Seconded by John Cousins. **Voice Vote: 15 in favor, 1 opposed. Passed.**

10. Consent Agenda

The letter was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

- Thank you letter to Diahn Swartz and Esther Cruz

11. Staff Reports

Matt Zoll (PCDOT)

- Pantano Wash: 5th to Irvington. They've had some delays, but did a final walk through for signs and markings. This means 6.5 new miles of path between 5th St and Irvington.
- Pantano Wash: Irvington to Valencia: Construction should start in May. This will include a section near Fantasy Island.
- Pantano Wash: Speedway to 5th. Should start construction in May.
- The CDO Wash path is proceeding. It'll connect the Santa Cruz River to Thornydale. It's about a month from completion.
- They are planning to have additional bike lanes on Anklam Road from the city limits west to Speedway. The road itself will be repaved and they will raise the shoulder, and then pave over the road and match the grade.
- At the Santa Cruz River, they are building an underpass at Camino Del Cerro on the west bank. People will have more choices to get across the road and not always have to cross "at grade."
- There were 702 diversion participants in 2014. 80 were signed up through February. They are ramping up classes because they are expecting larger numbers because of the UA and TPD GoHS grants.
- Ignacio is going strong with the classes and they are very busy. They ordered 90 bicycles and other equipment for the elementary and middle school bicycle classes.

Ann Chanecka (TDOT)

- Grant Road is getting 5 feet bike lanes as part of its resurfacing
- Stone north of Speedway doesn't have bike lanes now, but it will get bike lanes as part of a new project. Diahn is really good at reviewing places where there are bike lanes less than 5 feet.
- There's a new posting for a Bike/Ped planner. Hopefully they'll get another staff person onboard
- The Technical Advisory Committee for Bike Share is making progress. The first working paper goes into detail on bike share in the US and the second is a lot of detail for Tucson. Those will be online in a couple weeks.
- Toole Design group will be back in Tucson to develop school travel plans for four schools. They'll get a lot of attention and engineering solutions.

- The Broadway/Treat Bike HAWK is going to construction soon. It has been desired for a long time. There are seven other HAWKS that are 90-100% design. Ann expects lots of project completions in 2015 and 2016.
- The 5th St Bike Boulevard design is complete. This includes the TOUCAN across Euclid and into the UA. In March, there will be an open house with the West University neighborhood and other interested people.

Brian Varney (Marana)

- Oro Valley and Marana joined forces for an article in BikeLife Tucson article. The goal is to let more people know what they are doing for cycling in their region.

Gabe Thum (PAG)

- Revamping their Bike Map. Looking at creating a Bike Map App. It's fun to say.
- Also working on the regional safety plan. Doing crashes and looking into trends.
- Working on the new Diversion program

Glenn Grafton (UA)

- Ignacio from the county did a training session with the CatTran drivers about how they interact with cyclists.
- The Spring Fling will be on the Mall again in April. It will mean blocking off the mall again. Members of the committee thought there were some problems with the detour routing last year.

12. Subcommittee and Related Entities Reports

Reports given by Collin Forbes (Enforcement), Adam Wade (Facilities), Ian Johnson (Urban Core), Eric Post (GABA), Kylie Walzak (Downtown Links and again for LSA), Tom Hausam (Green Valley), and a representative from PBAA.

Enforcement subcommittee (Collin Forbes)

- In addition to the diversion program, they reviewed left turns as box turns. Matt is redoing the Pima County Share the Road Guide and had a concern about one of the scenarios. We recommended to remove the second scenario, which has the bicyclist veering to the right to stop in the right lane. It doesn't work for large intersections, and isn't needed as much for small ones. Describing how to do it right was going to be too much for a paragraph in a 3x5" booklet.

Facilities Subcommittee (Adam Wade)

- Talked about Tangerine. Also talked about routing through construction projects.
- They lost two members recently. Need more members for a strong committee.

Urban Core (Ian Johnson)

- Discussed a potential Stone Ave cycle track. There are questions of whether cyclists will be allowed to cross the plaza in front of the courthouse.
- Also discussed James Rogers Way on the UA Campus. They are trying to get the thought process for how they did it.

GABA (Eric Post)

- Their budget is set for donations for the year and they are going to be supporting PBAA with donations.
- They have a new press person to do press releases.
- The next major event coming up is the GABA Swap Meet, April 12.

Downtown Links (Kylie Walzak)

- The committee met monday, they are at 90% design and will be at 100% soon. They had the most productive bike/ped subcommittee ever and are hammering out the last three pinch points.
- At the next meeting in April they hope to get to 100%. There will be an open house afterward.
- It's a huge project, but Kylie thinks they've mitigated most of the impacts. There will be crossings at 7th/7th and the 6th Ave underpass has a lot more options. 9th Ave by the Citizens Warehouse has a lot of bicycle traffic and will probably be the best bicycle facility downtown when it's complete.

Broadway Citizens Task Force (Anne Padias)

- She has been reading disturbing newspaper articles and gossip.
- The Citizens Task Force was very clear they wanted 6 lanes, including two bus lanes. The last part was left out when it came from Mayor and Council.
- Also they are backing off on having the bike lanes routed behind the bus stops. The argument is that the "fast and fearless" bikers won't go around the bus stops. It's crazy to allow the bike detour to disappear.
- The next meeting is scheduled for March 19.

Living Streets Alliance (Kylie Walzak)

- TUSD board members are coming to the safe routes to school planning.
- A Light The Night program will be happening on Tuesday. 5pm giving away bike lights and helmets at Treat/copper.
- There will be a Kidical Mass ride on Valentines day at Blenman Elementary school, Country Club and Elm.
- Working hard to get Bike Fest and Cyclovia up and running. Cyclovia is April 19.

SCVBAC (Tom Hausaum)

- They are looking forward to working with the Facilities subcommittee on the Camino De La Canoa letter.

PBAA (Elaine Mariolle)

- Beginning an after school bike program for kids in grades 5-7 in South Tucson.

13. Announcements

BICAS is running Camping Trip to Colossal Caves on March 7 & 8. They are also having Bike Camping workshops ahead of time to prepare.

14. Adjournment — 8:11 p.m.

Attendance:

David Bachman-Williams, Pima County
Brian Beck, Pima County
Raymond Copenhaver, Pima County
John Cousins, Ward 4
Wayne Cullop, Pima County
Collin Forbes, Pima County
Glenn Grafton, UA
Tom Hausam, Pima County
Cameron Hummels, Mayor's Office
Ian Johnson, Pima County
Anne Padias, Ward 5
Eric Post, Pima County
Darlane Santa Cruz, Ward 1
Robin Steinberg, Pima County
Adam Wade, Oro Valley
Kylie Walzak, Ward 3

Audience:

Sgt David Fernandez, TPD
Deputy Ryan Roher, PCSO
Bill Adamson, SCVBAC
Jessica Hersh-Ballering, TDOT
Ann Chanecka, TDOT
Paul Minnis, Citizen
Gabe Thum, PAG
Andrew Bailey, Kittelson & Associates
Howard Strause, Cactus Cycling Club
Jesse Boudart, Kittelson & Associates
Nancy Ellis, Oro Valley
Matt Zoll, PCDOT
Brian Varney, Town of Marana
Elaine Mariolle, PBAA
Josephina Ahumada, City of South Tucson